

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 21 Jul 1950

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1. The rubber plant in Riga, "Sarkanais Kvadrats" (Red Square), under the Ministry of Local Industry, is working satisfactorily and is often mentioned as a plant exceeding the production plan. As of 10 May 49, it had already fulfilled its five year plan. The plant produces large quantities of Soviet "standard goods" -- rubber shoes with uppers made of cloth. It produced 115 thousand pairs of such shoes in 1948. The plant also produces some other types of rubber goods. The number of employees at the plant is a bit larger than during the time that Latvia was a free state.
2. Rubber plant "Varonis", also in Riga, and also under the Ministry of Local Industry, is working well. It produces galoshes, tubes for bicycles, etc. The latter are produced for the bicycle factory "Sarkanā Zvaigzne" (Red Star) formerly "Ehrenpreis - 4 - B - Drei". The number of employees is about same as in 1939.
3. Rubber plant "Metērs", in Riga, under Ministry of Local Industry is working satisfactorily. According to the plan of 1949, 500 pairs of footwear were to be produced every 24 hours. Number of employees not much less than in 1939.
4. Match factory "Kometa" and match factory "Vezuvs", are both under Ministry of Forestry. Both are working satisfactorily as they are often mentioned among the factories fulfilling and exceeding their plans. No figures about the scale of their production are available.
5. The match combine "Vulkans" is mentioned by radio but no specified data are at hand.
6. Rīgas Superfosfāta Fabrika Milgrāvī (The Riga Superphosphate Factory at Muhlgraben) under the Ministry of Local Industry. Five hundred tons of fertilizer per 24 hours was produced by it beginning in 1948. The plan is often not fulfilled and, in some months, only up to 50%. Fertilizers from this plant are also exported to Lithuania and Estonia. Apatite is imported for it from Murmansk.
7. Kimiskā Fabrika "Zasulaukas Triecienieks" (The Chemical Plant "Shockworker" of Zasulauks) formerly T. C. Kocha Lac factory, under the Ministry of Local Industry, is producing nitrocellulose and aniline as well as typographical dyes. Production seems to be on a pre-war scale.

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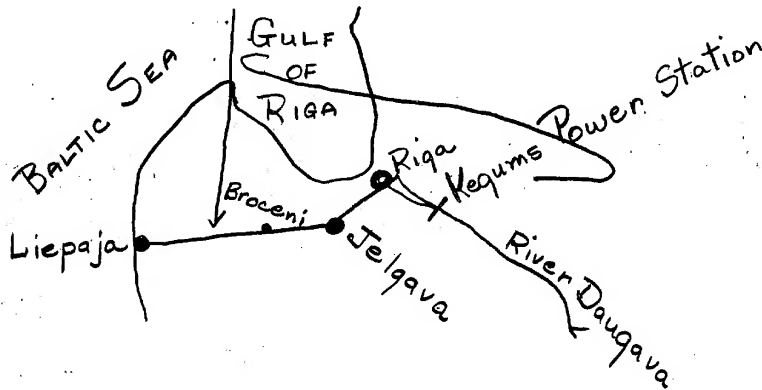
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8. Liepajas Linoleuma Fabrika (Linoleum Factory of Liepaja) is directly under the Soviet Union. This factory ceased operation in 1930 but has recently renewed its activity. It is producing wall plates of linoleum, and produced 1,200,000 square meters in 1949.
9. In addition there are some chemical plants in Latvia which are directly subject to Moscow as is all the pharmaceutical industry, numbering about 24 plants and including the former "Farmacija", one oil refinery and the "Ellu un Smeru Fabrika Regotmas" (oil and grease factory Regotmas). No data are available about them.
10. The Kasein factory of the Riga Milk Combine is in operation. It produces sulphuric acid, glue, soap and grease for carts.
11. On 22 Sep 49 the Riga-Madona broadcasting station reported: "The asphalt work on the Kegums bridge has been completed and the concrete work on the left bank of River Daugava at the Kegums power station has been completed. Three turbines /Kegums Power Plant/ have been repaired and they are all now in operation. The Kegums Power Station is now furnishing two-thirds of all the electric power produced in Latvia. Also the Riga Thermal power station is in operation and one new steam boiler has been installed. The high tension line Jelgava-Broceni-Liepaja has been completed." /See sketch below/.



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